

A DOZEN TRUTHS ABOUT PACIFISM.

It is Not War that is the
Cause of War, but
the War that is
the Cause of War.
The last war
faded away
slower and
more slowly than
the first.

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Alfred H. Fried.



A DOZEN TRUTHS ABOUT PACIFISM

IT IS NOT TRUE

that Pacifism has failed. *The truth is* that the lack of international organization has failed, and that a system of order between states will have to be established, if future wars are to be avoided.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that international law has become a chimera. *The truth is* that the very passionate indignation against its continued violation in this war has proved its necessity and is a reason why it should be made more secure in the future.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that international coöperation has been destroyed forever through this war. *The*

truth is that in science, trade, commerce, sanitation, social welfare, etc., no nation can suffice for itself alone; each *must* co-operate with the others in its own interests.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that the Pacifists are working toward a premature peace, or that they are trying to influence public opinion in this direction. *The truth is* that, much as they deplore this war, they realize it will have to be waged to the point where a permanent peace may be secured for every nation.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that the efforts for international conciliation have been proved fallacious. *The truth is* that these efforts, had they not been interrupted by the outbreak of this war, would have made it possible, in time, to avert war altogether.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that the work of The Hague has been in vain. *The truth is* that the present war shows how much nations are forced to appeal to their work at the Hague and to demand that it be respected, so that it may be assumed that the people will regard The Hague peace guarantees more seriously in the future.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that the Pacifists believed "Universal Peace" was already secured, and that their belief has been refuted by the outbreak of the world war. *The truth is* that they did not consider permanent peace assured; otherwise they would have ceased their work. They continued because they had realized the impending danger, and sought to show how to avoid it.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that the Pacifists strove for an "Eternal Peace." *The truth is* that they are striving for a condition of peaceful intercourse between civilized nations, based upon law, coöperation and mutual confidence.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that the Pacifists stand for total disarmament so that their countries would be undefended. *The truth is* that they never spoke of total disarmament, but primarily only of a *limitation of armaments*, to be brought about by the common action of all nations.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that the Pacifists are striving toward a phantasy called the "Federation of Europe." *The truth is* that they have in mind a voluntary federation of several nations, founded

on the mutual recognition of one another's obligations, which would form a basis for an organized family of nations.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that the Pacifists believe that all disputes can be settled by an arbitration court. *The truth is* that they are convinced that even the most serious conflicts of interests can be settled in a peaceful manner by mutual agreement, or by a delay and an investigation of the dispute, especially when system by which states guarantee mutual security shall have deprived conflicts of their menacing character.

IT IS NOT TRUE

that it is only by armaments that peace can be secured. *The truth is* that the very system of unbearable piling up of armaments has caused this world war, which no people and no government wanted.

ALFRED H. FRIED,
Translated by John Mez, Ph.D.

